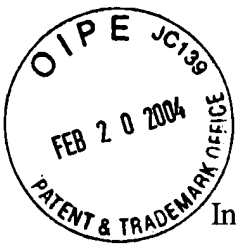


1733

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

JOSE MERINO-LOPEZ et al.

Application No.: 10/071,135

Filed: February 6, 2002

For: MEASUREMENT OF ADHERENCE BETWEEN A VEHICLE WHEEL AND THE ROADWAY

Examiner: Steven D. Maki

Group Art Unit: 1733

February 19, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In the Official Action mailed January 28, 2004, the Examiner required restriction between Group I, claims 1-21, drawn to a tire having a sensor with a first tread element and Group II, claims 22-29, drawn to a method for detecting an adherence characteristic.

In response, Applicants elect without traverse to prosecute Claims 1-21 of Group I in the present application.

Applicants hereby cancel claims 22-29 without prejudice to prosecuting the subject matter of the claims in a divisional application.

Attorney Docket No. 03161.001145.1

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants' undersigned attorneys may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



John D. Murnane
Registration No. 29,836

Alicia A. Russo
Registration No. 46,192

Attorneys for Applicants

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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